

SESIÓN 03-07 DE LOS REPRESENTANTES ALTERNOS

ACTA RESUMIDA

El Consejo de la Comisión para la Cooperación Ambiental (CCA), representado por sus representantes alternos, se reunió mediante conferencia telefónica el 19 de diciembre de 2003. José Manuel Bulás (México) presidió la sesión. Norine Smith y Jerry Clifford representaron a Canadá y Estados Unidos, respectivamente. William Kennedy, director ejecutivo de la CCA, representó al Secretariado. Julie-Anne Bellefleur, secretaria del Consejo, fungió como tal en la sesión. Participaron también otros funcionarios de las partes y del Secretariado.

Punto 1 Aprobación del orden del día

Los representantes alternos aprobaron el orden del día con base en el documento provisional correspondiente (anexo A).

Punto 2 Informe del director ejecutivo

Por motivos de tiempo, el director ejecutivo limitó su informe a observaciones introductorias para la discusión del Plan Operativo 2004-2006. Manifestó cierta preocupación sobre los cambios propuestos en los objetivos A y B de la meta 3. En cuanto a la precaria situación del Fondo de América del Norte para la Cooperación Ambiental (FANCA), citó un fragmento del informe de junio de 2000 de Revisión Interna del FANCA, en el que se sugiere que un nivel adecuado de financiamiento para mantener la integridad y la eficiencia del fondo se calculaba un mínimo de un millón de dólares estadounidenses. El informe también plantea que una opción, en ausencia de los recursos adecuados, sería sustituir el FANCA por un programa más estratégico orientado a las comunidades.

Punto 3 Informe del presidente del CCPC

El presidente del CCPC informó sobre las reuniones de ese Comité celebradas los días 4 y 5 de diciembre en Miami. Señaló que el CCPC había presentado su recomendación sobre los artículos 14 y 15 (la limitación del alcance de los expedientes de hechos y la revisión de la operación de la Resolución de Consejo 00-09) y pronto expondría una recomendación sobre las especies invasoras. Informó a los representantes alternos sobre la decisión del CCPC, luego de una reunión privada con miembros del Comité de Revisión y Evaluación del Decenio (CRED), de posponer cualquier decisión relativa a la realización de una autoevaluación hasta que se publique el informe del CRED con objeto de evitar la duplicación de esfuerzos. El CCPC también sugirió al CRED que se organice una reunión pública en paralelo a la sesión de Consejo de junio de 2004 para presentar los hallazgos del informe del CRED. En cuanto a la reciente carta del CCPC sobre la importancia de mejorar las comunicaciones y aprovechar al máximo el tiempo del Consejo y el CCPC cuando se reúnan en junio de 2004, sugirió que este asunto se discuta con los representantes alternos en su reunión conjunta de marzo de 2004 en Oaxaca.

Punto 4 Plan Operativo 2004-2006

Los representantes alternos llegaron a un acuerdo general en torno del Plan Operativo 2004-2006 y el presupuesto, según consta en la reconciliación presupuestaria de 2004 (anexo B); quedaría pendiente la discusión de los siguientes asuntos por parte del Comité General Permanente (CGP) a principios de enero:

Meta 1, Objetivo B: Los funcionarios de comercio y la ciudadanía obtienen un mayor conocimiento sobre los efectos de la liberalización comercial y utilizan dicho conocimiento para documentar los nuevos acuerdos

- Depende de la revisión que hagan Canadá y México de la propuesta de EU relativa a las estrategias 1 y 2

Meta 3, Objetivo A: Conservar la diversidad biológica de América del Norte y utilizarla de modo sustentable

- Sujeta a la revisión y discusión de la propuesta de Estados Unidos sobre la estructuración y el contenido de este Objetivo y la integración de todo el trabajo sobre diversidad biológica conforme al Objetivo A.
- El presupuesto propuesto se revisará tomando en cuenta que se pueden lograr ahorros adicionales identificados por el Secretariado como resultado de la nueva política de viajes de los representantes gubernamentales.

Meta 3, Objetivo B: Asegurar que las políticas ambientales, económicas y comerciales de América del Norte se apoyen mutuamente

- Estrategia 1 (energía renovable): Sujeta a una discusión ulterior de la reformulación del Secretariado sobre los proyectos relacionados y el presupuesto correspondiente.
- Estrategia 2 (etiquetado ambiental) y Estrategia 3 (publicación de información ambiental): Depende de la revisión que hagan Canadá y México de la redacción propuesta por Estados Unidos.

Informe del artículo 13 (maíz y diversidad biológica)

- Estados Unidos sugirió que el nivel de financiamiento para el informe del artículo 13 sobre Maíz y Biodiversidad se examine de nuevo para determinar si se pueden lograr mayores ahorros en esta iniciativa.

Los representantes alternos coincidieron en la importancia de ocupar las dos plazas vacantes del programa Contaminantes y Salud en apoyo de los proyectos Manejo Adecuado de las Sustancias Químicas, Registro de Emisiones y Transferencias de Contaminantes, y Salud Infantil y Medio Ambiente.

Por ultimo, se señaló que pese a los esfuerzos concertados para encontrar ahorros adicionales en apoyo del FANCA, el monto de los fondos disponibles para esta iniciativa estaba muy por debajo del umbral considerado adecuado para mantener la eficiencia de aquél. Por lo tanto, las partes y el CCPC coincidieron con la sugerencia del Secretariado de trabajar con el CCPC en el desarrollo de una propuesta para la ejecución de una iniciativa de desarrollo de la capacidad, cuyo financiamiento provendrá del monto de los fondos disponibles una vez que se concluyan el Plan Operativo 2004-2006 y el presupuesto de 2004.

Punto 5 Sesión de Consejo 2004

Como anfitrión de la undécima sesión ordinaria del Consejo, México propuso algunas fechas para la reunión de junio de 2004. Como los días no fueron convenientes con otros compromisos de los miembros canadiense y estadounidense del Consejo, México propondrá nuevas fechas para la citada reunión durante la primera semana de enero. Una vez que se confirme la fecha de la sesión se determinará la sede.

Punto 6 Otros asuntos

No se abordarán otros asuntos.

Punto 7 Próxima sesión de los representantes alternos

Los representantes alternos se reunirán vía conferencia telefónica en enero de 2004 para finalizar el Plan Operativo 2004-2006 si ello se torna necesario luego de las discusiones en el CGP. Se reunirán también en marzo de 2004 en Oaxaca, México, en conjunción con el Simposio sobre Maíz y Biodiversidad y la reunión del CCPC.

Punto 8 Clausura de la sesión

Antes de levantar la sesión, los representantes alternos agradecieron a Gustavo Alanís-Ortega sus valiosas recomendaciones y participación en las sesiones de Consejo durante su presidencia del CCPC el año pasado.

**SESSION 03-07 OF ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVES
AGENDA**

Held via conference call on
Friday, 19 December from 12:00 to 1:30 p.m., Eastern Standard Time
(11:00 to 12:30, Mexico time)

Chair: Mexico

- Item 1 Adoption of the agenda
- Item 2 Report by Executive Director
- Item 3 Report by JPAC Chair
- Item 4 2004—2006 Operational Plan
- Item 5 2004 Regular Session of Council
- Item 6 Other issues
- Item 7 Next session of Alternate Representatives
- Item 8 Closure of the session

**SESSION 03-07 OF ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVES
ANNOTATIONS TO THE AGENDA**

Item 1 Adoption of the agenda

The Council shall adopt the agenda.

DOCUMENTS:

- a) Draft annotated agenda (distributed 12-12-2003) C/C.01/03-07/AGEN/01/Rev.1

Item 2 Report by the Executive Director

The Executive Director may wish to briefly address the Council on any matter requiring their attention.

DOCUMENTS: No document

Item 3 Report by the JPAC Chair

Under this item the JPAC Chair may wish to provide a brief update on recent JPAC activities.

DOCUMENTS:

- a) Letter dated 10 December 2003 from JPAC to Tulane University (distributed 4-12-2003)

Item 4 2004—06 Operational Plan

Further to the November 20-21 session of Alternate Representative, the Secretariat submitted a revised version of the proposed 2004-06 Operational Plan, taking into account the priorities identified by the Alternate Representatives during their last meeting as well as written comments and changes proposed Canada and the US.

The Alternate Representatives are invited to review and approve, as appropriate, the revised draft of the Operational Plan and budget.

DOCUMENTS:

- a) Addendum to the revised Operational Plan package (to be distributed 16-12-2003)
- b) Revised draft Operational Plan for 2004—2006 (distributed 5-12-2003)
- c) Memo from the Executive Director dated 5 December 2003 and summary of revised proposals (distributed 5-12-2003)
- d) Budget reconciliation spreadsheet (distributed 5-12-2003)
- e) Proposed timeline for review and approval of 2004-2006 Operational Plan (distributed on 10-10-2003)

Item 5 Planning of 2004 Council Session

Further to the suggestion made during their last session, the Alternate Representatives may wish to discuss the viability of postponing the 2004 Council Session and/or confirm the date of the session, as appropriate.

DOCUMENT(S)

- a) Memo dated 2 December 2004 from the Executive Director re: 2004 Council Session and proposed timeline (distributed on 2-12-2003)

Item 6 Other Issues

At the time of writing, no other issues had been proposed for discussion.

Item 7 Next sessions of Alternate Representatives

The Alternate Representatives will meet next on 11-12 March 2004 in Oaxaca, Mexico for a regular session and a joint meeting with JPAC. Should there be a need for another session in advance of the March meeting, a conference call may be arranged in January or February 2004.

DOCUMENT(S):

- a) Proposed schedule for sessions of Alternate Representatives in 2003—2004 (distributed on 13-11-2003) C/C.01/03-06/PLAN/01/Rev.1

Item 8 Closure of the session

The Chairperson is expected to close the session.

2004 Budget Reconciliation		Draft Plan	Alt Reps Recommendation (20-21 Nov.)	Secretariat Proposal	Net difference	Alt. Reps (19 Dec.)	Comments
GOAL 1: To foster understanding of the state of our environment, and its relation to the economy and trade in North American		1,325,000	1,080,000	1,120,000	40,000	1,050,000	
Objective A: The public and the parties have a better understanding of the state of and outlook for the North American environment, and its relation to human and ecosystem health		990,000	915,000	890,000	25,000)	885,000	
<i>Strategy 1: Facilitating data harmonization and information sharing and promoting integrated monitoring across North America to foster better understanding of the current status of the North American environment</i>		900,000	825,000	800,000	(25,000)	795,000	
	State of the Environment Information	90,000	75,000	75,000	-	75,000	
	North American ambient air monitoring networks (Air)	70,000	70,000	70,000	-	60,000	
	North American air emissions and green house gas inventories (Air)	280,000	280,000	280,000	-	245,000	
	North American Pollutant Release and Transfer Registry: Taking Stock Report	400,000	400,000	375,000	(25,000)	375,000	
	Information exchange on best available technologies for air pollution control (Air)	60,000	-	-	-	40,000	
<i>Strategy 2: Investigating potential environmental threats and issues of common concern by performing comparative analysis and assessments using comparable environmental information collected across North America</i>		50,000	50,000	50,000	-	50,000	
	Forward-looking assessments of air pollution/public health/ecosystem interactions (Air)	50,000	50,000	50,000	-	50,000	
<i>Strategy 3: Assessing and informing the public and decision makers on the impacts of environmental degradation on human and ecosystem health in North America</i>		40,000	40,000	40,000	-	40,000	
	Children's Health and the Environment	40,000	40,000	40,000	-	40,000	
Objective B: Trade officials and the public understand the environmental effects of liberalized trade and use that understanding to inform new agreements		335,000	165,000	230,000	65,000	165,000	
<i>Strategy 1: Develop Strategic Plan for Trade and Environment</i>		15,000	15,000	15,000	-	15,000	CA/MX to review US proposal
	Favour the harmonization of environment and trade policies	10,000		-	-	-	
	Increase communication with trade agencies and the FTC	5,000		-	-	-	
	Develop Strategic Plan for trade and environment	-	15,000	15,000	-	15,000	
<i>Strategy 2: Assessing and disseminating findings on environment / trade relationships in a transparent manner</i>		200,000	150,000	175,000	25,000	150,000	CA/MX to review US proposal
	Assess linkages between trade and environment, focusing on agriculture and energy	50,000	50,000	50,000	-	50,000	
	Conduct third North American Symposium on assessing the environmental impacts of trade	150,000	100,000	125,000	25,000	100,000	
<i>Strategy 3: Increasing cooperation and capacity to participate among experts in NAFTA</i>		120,000	-	40,000	40,000	-	

2004 Budget Reconciliation		Draft Plan	Alt Reps Recommendation (20-21 Nov.)	Secretariat Proposal	Net difference	Alt. Reps (19 Dec.)	Comments
<i>countries on priority environment, economy and trade linkages</i>							
	Test an "environment-first" approach	50,000	-	25,000	25,000	-	
	Facilitate community-based monitoring	50,000	-	15,000	15,000	-	
	Revise the CEC list of environmental indicators	20,000	-	-	-	-	
GOAL 2: To act as a catalyst to improve domestic law and policy, and enhance environmental enforcement and compliance across North America		500,000	405,000	405,000	-	405,000	
Objective A: Enhance cooperation in the development, improvement and dissemination of information about environmental laws, policies, standards and technical requirements		280,000	265,000	265,000	-	265,000	
<i>Strategy 1: Improve the understanding of regulatory and technical requirements, and management techniques in selected sectors</i>		50,000	50,000	50,000	-	50,000	
	"Best Practices" for promoting and safeguarding Water Quality	50,000	50,000	50,000	-	50,000	
	Pulp and Paper Industry Standards and Management Techniques	-	-	-	-	-	
	Chemical Industry	-	-	-	-	-	
<i>Strategy 2: Ensuring that online information about North American environmental laws and policies is up-to-date and easily accessible</i>		15,000	-	-	-	-	
	Law Data Base Development	15,000	-	-	-	-	
<i>Strategy 3: Improving the coordination of environmentally sound management and tracking of transboundary hazardous waste in North America</i>		215,000	215,000	215,000	-	215,000	
	Environmentally Sound Management of Hazardous Waste (EMS)	100,000	100,000	100,000	-	100,000	
	Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Waste	80,000	80,000	80,000	-	80,000	
	Hazardous Waste Code Dictionary	35,000	35,000	35,000	-	35,000	
Objective B: The Parties enhance compliance with, and enforcement of, their environmental laws and regulations		220,000	140,000	140,000	-	140,000	
<i>Strategy 1: Providing a forum for Parties and stakeholders to come together on issues of common concern</i>		220,000	140,000	140,000	-	140,000	
	Enforcement Working Group meetings	60,000	30,000	30,000	-	30,000	
	Enforcement Working Group Publications	60,000	60,000	60,000	-	60,000	
	Enforcement Working Group Conferences and Workshops	100,000	50,000	50,000	-	50,000	
<i>Strategy 2: Ensuring that the Articles 14 and 15 process yields information that can enhance environmental enforcement and compliance in North America</i>					-		
	Please refer to Actions described under Goal4, Objective A				-		
GOAL 3: To mobilize international cooperation to resolve critical North American Environmental issues		2,398,000	2,106,000	2,113,000	7,000	2,096,000	

2004 Budget Reconciliation		Draft Plan	Alt Reps Recommendation (20-21 Nov.)	Secretariat Proposal	Net difference	Alt. Reps (19 Dec.)	Comments
Objective A: Conserve North America's biodiversity and use it sustainably		752,000	730,000	692,000	(38,000)	730,000	Pending further review of US proposal re: structuring/content of Objective and budget level
<i>Strategy 1: Contribute to the safeguarding of ecologically-significant regions</i>		301,000	301,000	279,000	(22,000)	301,000	
	Biodiversity Strategy	36,000	36,000	26,000	(10,000)	36,000	
	Grassland Ecosystem Network	105,000	105,000	102,500	(2,500)	105,000	
	North American Marine Protected Areas Network (NA MPA)	160,000	160,000	150,500	(9,500)	160,000	
<i>Strategy 2: Contribute to the conservation and recovery of migratory and transboundary species</i>		339,000	339,000	323,000	(16,000)	339,000	
	North American Bird Conservation Initiative	40,000	40,000	40,000	-	40,000	
	Terrestrial Species of Common Conservation Concern	145,000	145,000	139,500	(5,500)	145,000	
	Marine Species of Common Conservation Concern	154,000	154,000	143,500	(10,500)	154,000	
<i>Strategy 3: Contribute to the reduction or elimination of common threats to North American biodiversity</i>		112,000	90,000	90,000	-	90,000	
	Toxics and Birds	22,000	-	-	-	-	
	Invasive Species	90,000	90,000	90,000	-	90,000	
Objective B: Ensure North American environmental, economic and trade policies are mutually supportive		445,000	265,000	365,000	100,000	265,000	
<i>Strategy 1: Promote renewable energy, energy efficiency, and carbon sequestration in North America</i>				115,000	115,000	115,000	Pending further discussion of Secretariat's reformulation of related projects and budget
<i>Strategy 2: Foster understanding of environmental labeling</i>		50,000	50,000	37,000	(13,000)	37,000	CA/MX to review language proposed by the US
<i>Strategy 3: Encourage disclosure of relevant environmental information</i>				94,000	94,000	94,000	CA/MX to review language proposed by the US
<i>Strategy 4: Foster green procurement in North America</i>		395,000	215,000	75,000	(140,000)	75,000	
	Lead the North American Green Purchasing Initiative (NAGPI)	75,000	75,000	75,000	-	75,000	
<i>Other Items</i>				44,000	44,000	44,000	
	Complete the palm project	-	-	19,000	19,000	19,000	
	Market-based studies to support SCCC under Biodiversity Program			25,000	25,000	25,000	
	Assess market for Green Goods and Services	140,000	-	-	-	-	

2004 Budget Reconciliation		Draft Plan	Alt Reps Recommendation (20-21 Nov.)	Secretariat Proposal	Net difference	Alt. Reps (19 Dec.)	Comments
	Support the creation of networks	25,000	-	-	-	-	
	Encourage involvement of financial markets	90,000	90,000	-	(90,000)	-	
	Recommend market based policies to support trade in green goods and services	50,000	50,000	-	(50,000)	-	
	Advise the Parties on how to facilitate disclosure of environmental information	15,000	-	-	-	-	
Objective C: Prevent or reduce pollution impacts on human and ecosystem health of mutual concern in North America		1,201,000	1,111,000	1,056,000	(55,000)	1,101,000	
<i>Strategy 1: Facilitating the development and implementation of North American strategies and actions to protect human health and the environment</i>		1,021,000	956,000	876,000	(80,000)	921,000	
	Sound Management of Chemicals Initiative (SMOC)	610,000	610,000	545,000	(65,000)	545,000	
	Regional Program of Action and Demonstration of Sustainable Alternatives to DDT for Malaria Vector Control in Mexico and Central America (DDTRP)	126,000	126,000	126,000	-	126,000	
	Children's Health and the Environment in North America	215,000	180,000	180,000	-	195,000	
	North American Air Working Group	30,000	30,000	15,000	(15,000)	10,000	
	Exchange opportunities for air quality professionals in North America	40,000	10,000	10,000	-	45,000	
<i>Strategy 2: Fostering private sector actions to adopt sound approaches to environmental protection</i>		180,000	155,000	180,000	25,000	180,000	
	Capacity Building for pollution prevention	105,000	105,000	105,000	-	105,000	
	Environmental Management Systems (EMS)	65,000	50,000	65,000	15,000	65,000	
	Environmental Auditing	10,000	-	10,000	10,000	10,000	
	Voluntary Corporate Environmental Stewardship	-	-	-	-	-	
GOAL 4: To provide a forum for public dialogue and participation concerning environmental issues in North America in all its activities		351,500	351,500	351,500	-	351,500	
Objective A: The North American public and NAAEC Parties view the citizen submission process as a useful and valuable mechanism for enhancing enforcement of and compliance with environmental law in North America		351,500	351,500	351,500	-	351,500	
					-		
	Citizen Submission Process	351,500	351,500	351,500	-	351,500	
					-		
GOAL 5: Cross-Cutting Goals		351,900	351,900	351,900	-	351,900	
Objective A: Communications		351,900	351,900	351,900	-	351,900	
GOAL 6: Administration		1,966,200	1,966,200	1,951,200	(15,000)	1,951,200	
Telecommunications		112,000	112,000	112,000	-	112,000	
Operating equipment		124,000	124,000	124,000	-	124,000	
Relocation orientation		50,000	50,000	50,000	-	50,000	
Recruitment		15,000	15,000	15,000	-	15,000	

2004 Budget Reconciliation		Draft Plan	Alt Reps Recommendation (20-21 Nov.)	Secretariat Proposal	Net difference	Alt. Reps (19 Dec.)	Comments
External administrative support		244,800	244,800	244,800	-	244,800	
Documentation Centre		114,000	114,000	114,000	-	114,000	
Corporate Office		202,500	202,500	202,500	-	202,500	
Mexico Liaison office		226,300	226,300	226,300	-	226,300	
Office supplies		155,000	155,000	140,000	(15,000)	140,000	
Rent		722,600	722,600	722,600	-	722,600	
GOAL 7: Special initiatives		1,340,100	1,340,100	1,326,100	(14,000)	1,264,100	
Article 13		293,600	293,600	293,600	-	281,600	
Ten-year review		100,000	100,000	100,000	-	100,000	
2004-2006 program		54,000	54,000	30,000	(24,000)	30,000	
Support to Council		265,500	265,500	265,500	-	265,500	
Support to JPAC		360,000	360,000	360,000	-	360,000	
Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting (MER)		90,000	90,000	50,000	(40,000)	50,000	
Annual Report		27,000	27,000	27,000	-	27,000	
Reserve for unforeseen needs		150,000	150,000	200,000	50,000	150,000	
Salaries		3,967,827	3,967,827	3,983,000	15,173	3,983,000	
Total Budget		12,200,527	11,568,527	11,601,700	33,173	11,452,700	
Other Items							
NAFEC				-		-	
10 (6)				-		-	
10 (7)				-		-	
P&H	Restore SMOC position			100,000	100,000	100,000	
P&H	Restore PRTR/CEH position			100,000	100,000	100,000	
Postponed from 2003							
	Delay in SOE contracts			(60,000)	(60,000)	(60,000)	
	Reduction in Air meeting costs			(40,000)	(40,000)	(40,000)	
TOTAL		12,200,527	11,568,527	11,701,700		11,552,700	
BUDGET		11,751,500	11,751,500	11,751,500		11,751,500	
DIFFERENCE		(449,027)	182,973	49,800		198,800	